

House Resolution 719

By: Representatives Gordon of the 162nd, Stephens of the 161st, Day of the 163rd, Carter of the 159th, Bryant of the 160th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears on the occasion of her
2 retirement from the Supreme Court of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on June 28, 2005, Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears made American history as she
4 was sworn in as the first African American female Chief Justice in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, Chief Justice Sears's legal career has been full of groundbreaking achievements,
6 as she is also the first woman and the youngest person to sit on Georgia's Supreme Court; and

7 WHEREAS, Chief Justice Sears earned a bachelor's degree from Cornell University, a law
8 degree from Emory University, and Master of Laws degree from the University of Virginia;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, named among *Ebony* magazine's 50 black women of higher achievement, Chief
11 Justice Sears has also received an NAACP award for community service and founded the
12 Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys; and

13 WHEREAS, her judicial career has been marked as one of fairness, balance, integrity, and
14 a masterful application of legal principles and precedent; and

15 WHEREAS, Chief Justice Sears is united in love and marriage to Haskell Ward, former
16 Deputy Mayor of New York City.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
18 the members of this body commend the outstanding and impressive judicial career of Chief
19 Justice Leah Ward Sears and congratulate her on the occasion of her retirement from the
20 Supreme Court of Georgia.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
22 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Chief Justice Leah Ward
23 Sears.